

FACILITATION

FMD, University of Waikato

Issue No: 10 - April 2003

Orchard Contamination Issue: I just wanted to update everybody on where we are at in terms of this issue as a number of FMD staff work in the area that was previously orchard, and whilst I have spoken to staff and also commented in this newsletter previously, both of those events were some time ago. The situation now is that we hired an independent consultant to analyse the results of the soil sampling testing we had done in the orchard and they made three recommendations.

- (1) That there was no cause for immediate concern and no immediate health risk.
- (2) That we needed to have further more comprehensive testing and analysis done before a determination of long term risk could be established.
- (3) That there were some simple remedial actions that could be taken whilst the further testing was being undertaken.

We have taken the remedial actions, such matters as covering over exposed soil, ensuring no vegetables are grown in the soils over that way, etc and have also talked with FMD staff (especially gardeners) about simple precautions such as washing hands prior to eating meals. We have contracted for the extra testing and analysis to be done and at the time of writing this the testing is all done but the final analysis of the results is yet to come in. We do have some interim analysis of the new data and that suggests that the results are very similar to the ones we obtained before and those indicated that overall there was no cause for concern in the long term, particularly if the simple remedial action and procedures mentioned above were taken. As soon as I have the full report in, I will give a comprehensive briefing to any staff (both FMD and other University staff) who might be working in this area, but in the meantime I do not believe there is any cause for concern by any staff or students who uses the area of the old orchard site. If anyone has any further concerns please feel free to come and see me to discuss them. --- John Cameron, Director, FMD

Philip Jensen of Technical Services Unit has secured a Mechanical Apprenticeship with FMD.

We congratulate Philip and wish him well with his studies. Philip Commenced work with FMD as a Trades assistant in 1996 and has been a very energetic and popular member of the staff.

Philip's apprenticeship training is for a four year period, and during the later stages of his training he will be working for local contractors in order to gain further practical skills that would be hard to provide on campus.



Kanohi Ki Te Kanohi

Tony Dicks, Trevor Harris and Clive Hobson attended the Kanohi ki te Kanohi ("Face to Face") session at Te Kohinga Marama Marae on the 14th April. The day is intended to provide all new University employees with an insight into Marae protocol and history, especially of Tainui and its relationship with the University. The afternoon is devoted to a brief overview of the Treaty of Waitangi and its interpretation.

Trevor Harris certainly admits to having benefited from the session and says there was a lot of interesting information to pick up both during the formal and informal periods at Te Kohinga Marama Marae, and - after the temptations of a good lunch in the Whare Kai - the afternoon session on the Treaty.

Trevor recommends the session to any FMD staff who have not attended it. The University runs about 4 per year.

Habitat for Humanity House "Thanks"

Thanks for all your help with this project. You (Ray) and all University staff we have had dealings with have been wonderfully helpful and cooperative to the highest degree. We really appreciate it, and look forward to working with you again next year - we have plans to do two next year (subject to University approval of course), one men's and one women's build, having a race.

Thanks again.
Pete North, CEO, Habitat for Humanity Hamilton



House removal

University of Waikato Fernery

Nan, Mark, and Steve hosted recently visitors to our Fernery, namely, Professor John McCraw, Eilla McKenzie, who contributed significant funds towards the redevelopment and additions to the Fernery. Eilla was accompanied by two close friends, Ailsa McCrone and Iolanthe Small from New Plymouth. Both worked for many years at the renowned Pukekura Park Fernery.

During their exploration of the Fernery the group gave us much praise and encouragement and promised to help us further on our collection. We presently have 74 of a total of 240, with our aim being to collect all of them.

It has been suggested that we form a "Friends of the Fernery" for people willing to give a little help. If you are interested, please contact Nan Sinclair at the Grounds Workshop on extension 8595 or Mark Thompson on extension 4293.

I would like to acknowledge the special contribution and interest of Nan Sinclair in developing, maintaining and ongoing enthusiasm to carry on with this project.

Mark Thompson, Grounds Manager



Nan Sinclair at the Fernery

FMD Social Club Update

Raffle and lotto bonus number winners:

- 28/3 Meat Pack - Mike Cagney No.12
Lotto bonus - Shar No.12 = \$40
Anne Scott No.20 = \$10
- 4/4 Meat Pack - Tony Duke No.2
Lotto bonus - Malcolm No.33 = \$40
Steve Cunningham No.22 = \$10
- 11/4 Meat Pack - Peter Burrows No.8
Lotto bonus - Malcolm R No.35 = \$40
Allan Jury (Contr) No.28 = \$10

The bus trip to Waiheke on 10th May is full. Departure time from FMD courtyard is 6.30am.

A mid year Xmas function is being arranged for Friday 27th June, possibly at the Casino. Prices, etc will be available shortly. Put names on noticeboard in FMD tearoom if you are interested in coming.

A big thank you for supporting the raffles!

Watch this space ...

Over the next couple of years the Science stair blocks will be getting a face lift - starting with EF link this year. We will be getting rid of the drab boring colours and will introduce purple, green, red and blue. It will be a shock to start with but will give the schools a definite lift which is overdue.

Susan Jensen, Projects Supervisor

Health & Safety

Thanks to you all for finally completing the Health & Safety Audits, and to those of you who had an email from me regarding the in-house OOS session, please make sure you put this on your calendar.

Susan Jensen

Some Watery Notes

Trevor Harris continues the exercise of quantifying the Campus' precise water usage figures and verifying FMD records on water pipe sizes and locations. FMD now has a record plan showing the locations of all the connections between the Campus system and the Hamilton CC supplies in Silverdale, Ruakura, Knighton and Hillcrest Roads. With some detective work, all connection points have now been tracked down. Amazingly, there are no less than 25 of them. There is a water meter at each location and FMD have now started monthly readings of these to build up the picture of water usage on campus.

The intention is to use this data in conjunction with the existing records and continually refine the model of the campus system. This will enable FMD to better identify areas where pressure or flow are below standard, and react accordingly.

Knowing how the water gets on to and around campus is only half the challenge. Trevor Harris' team will then piece together the jigsaw of how the University gets rid of it. This will involve collecting data on the sewage and rainwater drainage systems. The first action is a full survey of all manholes and chambers on campus, lifting covers and recording information on all pipes running in and out of these chambers. This survey is expected to start next month. Better knowledge of the campus' drainage systems will similarly highlight problem areas and better enable us to demonstrate compliance with Hamilton CC discharge conditions.

Trevor Harris, Buildings Maintenance Manager

For those who are fortunate enough to get out of the office now and again, you may have seen Cherie shaking handrails over the last month (no, she was not having a fit or a mental break down). This was all in aid of the FMD Accessibility report for Susan Jensen and Pieter Koers, dealing with access for those with disabilities on campus. This included checking the stability of handrails on stairwells, ramps, lifts and toilet grab rails. Unfortunately there were a few loose handrails on campus, therefore you may notice some improvements on these over the next few months.